

REMARKS

Claims 1-5 are pending. Claims 4 and 5 are new. The applicants respectfully request entry of this amendment and examination of this application in view of the following remarks.

Two replacement drawing sheets are attached. In Fig. 1, reference character 12 has been added. This reference character appears on page 7, line 20, of the specification. In Fig. 5, reference character R has been added to designate the recessed section of the case.

The specification has been amended to describe the recessed section R. Although the recessed section was disclosed in the originally filed drawings, the recessed section R was not mentioned in the text of the originally filed specification. New claim 4 covers the recessed section, thus the specification has been amended to describe the recessed section and to indicate where in the drawings the recessed section appears.

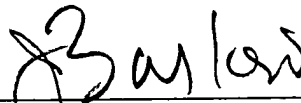
Claims 4 and 5 are new claims that cover a recessed section of the case body. Note that the case may shift forward during a collision. See line 25 of page 22 through line 2 of page 23 of the specification. The recessed section is intended to accommodate the steering column 12 during such a shift.

The examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if the examiner has questions about this application.

Serial No. 10/602,689

Please charge any unforeseen fees that may be due to Deposit Account No. 50-1147.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Barlow", written over a horizontal line.

James E. Barlow
Reg. No. 32,377

Posz & Bethards, PLC
11250 Roger Bacon Drive, Suite 10
Reston, VA 20190
Phone 703-707-9110
Fax 703-707-9112
Customer No. 23400